CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

CERT NEWSLETTER

SINCE 1991

March 2016

HB CERT HIGHLIGHTS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

CLASS 1

. CERT General Meeting

By Carol Burtis

The next CERT general meeting will be held Thursday, March 10 at 6:30 pm, room B7/B8 in the HB City Hall. With the departure of Stephanie, CERT volunteers will need to help us do a 'soft reboot' of the CERT program.

We will have a speaker from the California Geological Survey talking about Tsunamis. We will also discuss the 2016 CERT calendar and the proposed meeting schedule for the rest of the year. If you want to be involved with any of the upcoming activities in 2016, this will be your chance to sign up. There will be a lot to discuss, so please join us with your enthusiasm, ideas, and volunteer hearts as we plot out 2016!

Coffee will be provided. Bringing snacks to the meeting to share would be appreciated.

Watching the Skies for More Rain

By Anna Pinter

The Super El Niño forecast for Southern California this winter has not happened. Except for a series of storms the first week of January, this winter has not lived up to the predictions of weather forecasters and climatologists. They predicted a 95% chance of heavy rain storms and continuous rain soaking all of California during the months of October through March.

The forecast had hopeful Southern California residents preparing for significant rainfall, flooding and coastal surges. The forecast predicted weather events would exceed the 1997-1998 Super El Niño. On December 2, 1997, a torrential rainstorm fell and storm after storm bore down on Southern California. In Huntington Beach the ground became permeated with water and a high tide occurred at the time of heavy morning rain on December 6. CERT responded to the flooding of homes and mobile home parks during the day for over eleven hours. Rainfall started in October and our sandbag teams were active through the middle of March, 1997.

Even though Southern California has not received a historical average of rain to date, the news for Central and Northern California is more encouraging. The storms resulted in 89% of the historical average in San Francisco, 102% in San Jose and 145% in Fresno.

Storms in the Northern Sierras have caused snow to accumulate. These Northern mountain areas produce a third of California's water supply. The mountains of Lake Tahoe had 56 inches of snow last year by mid - January. This year 193 inches has fallen in the entire Sierra, surpassing the historic average of 74 inches. Even though the entire snowpack was 102 percent of its historic average, an average of 150 percent would be required to have an impact on the current drought.

Scientists from NOAA, the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration and their Climate Prediction Center, believe El Niño has peaked but winter storms will continue in Central and Northern California through April, 2016. These storms have the potential to be stronger with more rain than in an average year. Time is running out and if the predicted late storms do not materialize, California will be in the middle of another year of drought.

Sandbags

by John Palmeri

'Tis the season to be prepared for El Niño. Sand bagging those low-lying areas around your home may well be the best solution for diverting water. Only too often, homeowners neglect to act in a proactive manner. The City of Huntington Beach has made it easy for you to obtain a maximum of 20 sand bags per city residence. The City Yard is located at 17371 Gothard Street (cross streets are Slater and Gothard.) Upon entry, you will see posted directions for the sand bag fill area. There you will find everything you need for sandbagging. Bags and sand will be supplied at no cost to all Huntington Beach residents. It is suggested that you bring your own shovel. Approximately three to four shovelfuls will fill a bag sufficiently. When laying sandbags, overlap them to prevent leakage between bags. Remember, be prepared!

A pickup truck is preferable for transporting sandbags because of its larger load capacity. A car should only transport five or six bags for safety reasons.

A Wonderful Service
By Brenda Welch

Since we are Senior Citizens and my husband has limited mobility, it was wonderful to have a number of sandbags delivered to our home in Huntington Beach. On January 28, 2016, because of the oncoming fear of flooding from El Nino, we called the CERT message line at, 714-536-5974, to ask to have sandbags delivered.

In a most expedient way, we received a call the morning of the assigned day. Three CERT members came to our home with sandbags in their own pickup truck. They placed sandbags at our garage door. It didn't take long and it was a pleasure. We can share our sandbags if other neighbors should need a few. The bags have ties for closure so that the sand won't wash away. It is correct to fold the top of the bag over and put the tied part of the bag under the sand so that the sand will not be washed away by the rain water.

We want to thank the many CERT volunteers involved in the sandbagging effort from those who fill the sandbags, those who answer the CERT message line, the dispatchers, and the strong people who deliver them. They are such an asset for the senior and handicapped citizens of Huntington Beach. We appreciate their time and talent very much.

We just want people to know how wonderful this service is and the people who do it!

Huntington Beach CERT and RACES Participate in 10K Race
By Robert Zamalin

Huntington Beach CERT team members participated with Huntington Beach RACES in providing communications for the 20th annual Surf City USA Marathon and Half Marathon Run on Sunday, February 7, 2016.

The full marathon was 26 miles and the half marathon was 13 miles through the beautiful city of Huntington Beach. Over 16,000 participants and 35,000 spectators attended the race.

The spectacular oceanfront course started and finished in front of the Hilton Waterfront Beach Resort. The course ran along Pacific Coast Highway, past the Huntington Beach Pier, through the scenic Huntington Central Park, back onto Pacific Coast Highway, along the beachfront bike and running path at Bolsa Chica State Beach and to the finish line.

The ham operators were stationed at the medical tents positioned across the course. They also served as communicators in the APRS-tracked SAG wagons that picked up runners who were unable to finish the course due to fatigue and minor injuries. A SAG wagon is an acronym for “Support and Gear” or “Support Aid Group,” depending on who you talk to. The SAG wagons were tracked, in real time, using an amateur radio system called the Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS) which was attached to the vehicle. Using this system, their position on the course was always known to communications net control and they could be assigned as needed throughout the course. HAMS were also stationed along the course providing communications as well as serving as additional eyes and ears for safety.

The CERT ham radio operators who participated were Raji Shunmugavel, KG6CCB, stationed on the running path at North Bolsa Chica, Kenneth Mailman, KF6YAY, at the library and Richard Batistelli, KI6TJI, assigned to ride in the SAG Wagon.

Ken Mailman was initially stationed on Golden West Blvd. by the entrance to the library and then, after the last runners went by, he was reassigned to Golden West and Pacific Coast Highway. He was able to watch “many of the runners become joggers and walkers as they were heading back towards the finish line.”

A Day at the Races
By Richard Batistelli, KI6TJI

On Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016, more than thirty -five ham radio volunteers, from HB RACES, HB CERT, OC RACES and MESAC (Mesa Emergency Services Amateur Communications), a Costa Mesa ham radio club, provided real time emergency communications support for the thousands of runners in the Huntington Beach Surf City Marathon.

My assignment, as a radio dispatched ham volunteer, was to “ride shotgun” in a SAG Wagon, a non-emergency transport van, and transfer disabled or exhausted runners from the course to medical aid stations. My driver, Jeff Turlis, KE6BNS, also an HB RACES volunteer, provided me with an exciting race-side view of runners, support volunteers, police and fire activities during the hours-long city event.

We traveled up and down the course transporting runners, moving water and medical supplies where needed and moving volunteers to their assigned locations. There was also time to take lots of pictures. There was never a dull moment.

Besides pictures and exciting memories, my other take away was that I also saw, first hand, the importance of being a ham radio volunteer. Be it a planned event such as this, where communication is very useful for the eyes and ears of planners, it also would be vital for police, fire, government and volunteer agencies, such as the Red Cross communications, when that inevitable disaster will take center stage in Huntington Beach.

IARU President Touts Amateur Radio's Relevance in Emergency Communication

Reprinted from the ARRL Letter of February 18, 2016

International Amateur Radio Union President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA, says Amateur Radio is "probably more relevant today than it was 25 years ago." Ellam made the comment during an interview with Maximilian Jacobson-Gonzalez at the 2nd Global Forum on Emergency Telecommunications (GET-2016), held in late January in Kuwait and sponsored by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The event's slogan was "Saving Lives."

"We're so dependent now on all kinds of systems of communications -- everyone has a cell phone, everyone is used to using the Internet -- but they're not used to what happens when those systems go down," Ellam said. "Amateur Radio is there. It relies on somewhat old fashioned technology, but there are also advancements in technology that we rely on."

Ellam pointed out that hams can use computer-based digital techniques to pass message traffic at very low power levels and under poor propagation conditions. "Amateur Radio has kept pace by developing new ways to communicate," he said.

Among the major challenges Amateur Radio is facing, Ellam cited the difficulty in some countries to obtain an Amateur Radio license. In addition, he said, some countries impose high duties on imported ham gear, and some make it difficult to erect appropriate antennas and support structures.

Ellam reiterated his focus on the value of the Amateur Service today when he spoke to two sessions at the GET-2016 gathering. "Amateur operators are on the ground. If they're not close to the site of a disaster, they might even be in it," he told a Leaders' Dialogue forum. "They're there. They're ready to go. For the first 24 to 48 hours you have people on the ground, ready to assist. They own their own equipment. They don't rely on commercial networks. If cellular service goes down, we can assist by using HF or VHF or UHF communications on a peer-to-peer basis."

Ellam pointed out that, although he's not an engineer and does not work in a technical field, he knows enough to get on the air using alternate power sources and a very simple wire antenna. "Don't forget the Amateur Radio services," he implored those attending the forum. "They're a great asset to you in times of crisis."

Watch the interview at: IARU President Touts Amateur Radio.doc

Susan McClaran's First Aid Corner

Many thanks to Virginia who found this great article on the Backdoor Survival website www.backdoorsurvival.com. The article is a reminder to CERT members the importance of keeping the medical instruments we will be using, as clean as we can in an emergency situation. Make sure and check out the case study towards the end of this article….very interesting to learn that bottled water (what CERT uses) does do the trick!

How to Disinfect and Sterilize Medical Instruments in a Survival Situation

We all strive to remain whole and healthy in a survival situation. Being prepared is necessary to survive accidents and other events in our daily lives.

Sterile Vs. Clean

Do you know the difference?

A significant factor in the quality of medical care given in a survival situation is the level of cleanliness of the equipment used. You may have heard of the terms "sterile" and "clean". Certainly, ideal conditions warrant both, but they are actually two different things.

When it comes to medical protection, "sterility" means the complete absence of microbes. Sterilization destroys all microbes on a medical item to prevent disease transmission associated with its use.

To achieve this, we want to practice the "sterile technique", which involves special procedures using special solutions and the use of sterile instruments, towels, and dressings. The sterile technique is especially important when dealing with wounds in which the skin has been broken and soft tissue exposed.

Of course, it may be very difficult to achieve a sterile environment if you are in the field or in an extremely austere setting. In this case, we may only be able to keep things "clean". Clean techniques concentrate on prevention of infection by reducing the number of microorganisms that could be transferred from one person to another by medical instruments or other supplies. Meticulous hand washing with soap and hot water is the cornerstone of a clean field.If you are going to be medically responsible for the health of your people in a survival setting, you will have to strike a balance between what is optimal (sterility) and what is, sometimes, achievable (clean).

Now, the question of how to sterilize your medical supplies: There are a number of ways that you can accomplish this goal. They are listed below in approximate order of effectiveness.

1. Simply placing the instruments in gently boiling water for 30 minutes would be a reasonable strategy, but may not eliminate some bacterial "spores" and could cause issues with rusting over time, especially on sharp instruments like scissors or knives. Note: always sterilize scissors and clamps in the "open"

Susan McClaran's First Aid Corner (continued)

2. Soaking in bleach (Sodium or Calcium Hypochlorite). 15-30 minutes in a 0.1% solution of bleach will disinfect instruments but no longer than that, or rusting will occur. Instruments must be rinsed in sterilized water afterward.

3. Soaking in 70% isopropyl alcohol for 30 minutes is another option. Some will even put instruments in a metal tray with alcohol and ignite them. The flame and alcohol, or even just fire itself (if evenly distributed) will do the job, but eventually causes damage to the instruments.

4. Chemical solutions exist that are specifically made for the purpose of high-level disinfection (not necessarily sterility) in the absence of heat, something very important if you have items that are made of plastic. A popular brand is Cidex OPA, a trade name for a solution with phthalaldehyde or glutaraldehyde as the active ingredient.

Immerse the instruments in a tray with the solution for 20 minutes for basic disinfection. Soaking overnight (10-12 hours) gives an acceptable level of "sterility" for survival purposes. There are test strips which identify when the solution is contaminated. If negative, you can reuse it for up to 14 days. As an alternative, some have recommended using 6-7.5% hydrogen peroxide for 30 minutes (household hydrogen peroxide is only 3%, however).

5. Ovens are an option if you have power. For a typical oven, metal instruments are wrapped in aluminum foil or placed in metal trays before putting them in the oven. The oven is then heated to 400 degrees Fahrenheit for 30 minutes or, alternatively, 325 degrees Fahrenheit for 2 hours.

6. Although ovens and microwaves have been used to sterilize instruments, probably the best way to guarantee sterility in an austere setting is a pressure cooker. Hospitals use a type of pressure cooker called an autoclave that uses steam to clean instruments, surgical towels, bandages, and other items. Modern medical facilities clean their equipment with this device.

In most survival settings, "clean" may be as good as it gets, but is that so bad? Modern medical facilities have the ability to provide sterility, so there is very little research that compares clean vs. sterile technique.

In one study, an experiment was conducted in which one group of patients had traumatic wounds that were cleaned with sterile saline solution, and another group with tap water. Amazingly, the infection rate was 5.4% in the tap water group as opposed to 10.3% in the sterile saline group. Another study revealed no difference in infection rates in wounds treated in a sterile fashion as opposed to clean technique.

Therefore, clean, drinkable water is acceptable for general wound care in survival scenarios. That doesn't mean that you shouldn't use antiseptic solutions if you have them, especially for the first cleaning.

Disinfectants, Antiseptics, Deecontaminant

So what's the difference between a disinfectant, an antiseptic, and a decontaminant?

To maintain a clean area, certain chemicals are used called "disinfectants". Disinfectants are substances that are applied to non-living objects to destroy microbes. This would include surfaces where you would treat patients or prepare food. An example of a disinfectant would be bleach.

Disinfection removes bacteria, viruses, and other bugs and is sometimes considered the same as "decontamination". Decontamination, however, may also include the removal of noxious toxins and could pertain to the elimination of chemicals or radiation. The removal of non-living toxins like radiation from a surface would, therefore, be decontamination but not necessarily disinfection.

While disinfectants kill bacteria and viruses on the surface of non-living tissue, "antiseptics" kill microbes on living tissue surfaces. Examples of antiseptics include Betadine, Chlorhexidine (Hibiclens), Iodine, and Benzalkonium Chloride (BZK).

The Zika Virus
By Raji Shunmugavel

According to **Dr. Ananya Mandal, MD**, "Viruses are tiny organisms that may lead to mild to severe illnesses in humans, animals and plants. This may include flu, or a cold, or something more life threatening like HIV/ AIDS".

Rae Ellen Bichell of NPR News states in Health News:

The Zika Virus is named after a forest in Uganda. Since it was first discovered in Uganda in 1947, Zika virus was known mostly as a short-lived and mild illness. In 2015, that all changed. An outbreak in Brazil is suspected of causing cases of a serious birth defect, microcephaly, and a potentially crippling disease, Guillain-Barre syndrome.

As the mosquito-borne illness spreads across the Americas, scientists are trying to figure out what illnesses the virus is truly responsible for and why more people are getting sick.

This timeline tracks the global response to Zika virus and scientists' understanding of how it affects people, with the most recent events:

02/16/2016: FDA says defer blood donations from recent travelers
02/11/2016: Introducing Aedes Aegypti
02/09/2016: Virologists race to figure out what makes Zika tick
02/08/2016: The Obama Administration plans to ask Congress to appropriate 1.8 billion dollars to fight the virus
02/08/2016: CDC (Center for Disease Control) revs up Zika Response
02/05/2016: Brazilian scientists say they found live virus in bodily fluids
02/01/2016: Dr. Margaret Chan, Directory-General of WHO, declares global public health emergency
01/15/2016: Center for Disease Control issues travel warning for pregnant women 11/17/2016: International concern rises about infant health
09/01/2015: Brazilian doctors notice spike in congenital brain deformities

VOA News
February 01, 2016

Zika: What is a WHO (World Health Organization) 'Public Health Emergency'?

The U.N. agency took the rare step Monday, February.1, 2016 despite a lack of definitive evidence proving the mosquito-borne virus is causing a surge in babies born with brain defects and abnormally small heads in Brazil, and following a 2013-14 outbreak in French Polynesia.

Generally, a disease outbreak must meet two key criteria for the WHO to declare it a "public health emergency of international concern," or PHEIC. It must first be determined to constitute a public health risk to other countries by spreading internationally and second, require a coordinated international response.

The organization's Director-General is responsible for determining whether an event falls within these categories and for convening an emergency committee. The committee then advises the Director-General on recommended measures to be administered on an emergency basis, known as temporary recommendations.

WHO Director-General Dr. Margaret Chan said, "After a review of the evidence, the committee advised that the clusters of microcephaly and other neurological complications constitute an extraordinary event and public health threat to other parts of the world," WHO Director-General Dr. Margaret Chan said.

The WHO has only declared a public health emergency three times since international Health Regulations were enacted in 2007. The first time was in 2009 with the outbreak of the H1N1 swine flu pandemic. The second was in May 2014 when polio seemed to surge again, threatening the eradication effort. The third time, in August 2014, came as the Ebola outbreak in West Africa was growing out of control. That means the Zika declaration will be the fourth PHEIC in history. It is also the first time the WHO has issued such a warning over a mosquito-borne disease.

From the RealAge website: How does Zika virus spread?

The Zika virus is spread by *Aedes* species of mosquitoes. These mosquitoes can pick up the virus by biting an infected person, and then transmit it to someone else they bite later. The virus does not generally spread from person to person directly, though sexual transmission is possible.

The type of mosquito that spreads Zika most often is limited to tropical and subtropical areas. In the United States, they're most common in Florida, the Gulf Coast and in Hawaii, but they also go as far north as Georgia and South Carolina. Another species that can carry them can range as far as New York in the summer. Experts think the virus will become common in the U.S.

From Emergency Services Magazine:

The Zika virus is likely to hit Georgia, officials said. Experts warned the State may have a higher risk of the illness spreading due to its mild weather and busy airport.

The Atlanta based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is currently testing specimens from several Georgia residents with travel history to the affected areas. Currently, there are some 31 confirmed cases in 11 states around the country.

The Zika Virus (continued)

U.S health officials have warned pregnant women to postpone trips to countries where the virus has been spreading since last May. Zika is suspected to be linked to microcephaly, a birth defect that causes brain damage and abnormally small heads.

There is no vaccine to prevent Zika, so the best way to protect yourself is to avoid mosquito bites. The World Health Organization recommends the following.

If you live in or travel to an area where Zika is common:

- Keep skin covered with long-sleeved shirts, pants and hats.
- Use recommended insect repellants.
- Sleep under mosquito nets in tropical areas.

To keep mosquitoes away from your home:

- Avoid allowing water to stand in outdoor containers.
- Put garbage in bags and closed containers.
- Use screens and mosquito nets in your windows and doors.

How can CERT help? Several years ago, Golden West College practiced for a pandemic by hosting a free flu shot clinic. Several hundred people lined up for shots and our ham radio operators were there in the lines to help out. They have also been there to help with communication when the Huntington Beach Hospital has a free flu shot clinic every fall.

For further information, see:

http://www.news-medical.net/health/What-is-a-Virus.aspx
http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jan/28/zika-virus-spreading-explosively-says-world-health-organisation
http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2016/02/10/466127813/zika-v...
http://www.sharecare.com/health/zika-virus/how-does-zika-virus-spread
http://www.emergencymgmt.com/health/Zika-virus-likely-to-hit-Georgia-health-officials-say.html

UC Berkeley Scientists Have Developed a New App That Uses Cell Phone to Detect Earthquakes

Taken from a February 12, 2016 Los Angeles Times Article by Rosanna Xia and Rong-Gong Lin II, Contact Reporters

The MyShake app, available on Google and at myshake.berkley.edu, uses Android Smartphone sensors to detect movement caused by an earthquake as soon as it starts. The app was released by the Berkeley Seismological Laboratory and developers with Deutsche Telekom Silicon Valley Innovation Laboratories of Mountain View, Calif. said the team will consider creating an iPhone version of the app if enough people download the Android version.

Scientists hope to turn mobile phones into vast data collection points, quickly gleaning information about the quakes and giving them the ability to warn those farther away from the epicenter that shaking is on the way.

By collecting information from hundreds of phones closest to the earthquake, scientists will be able to test a computer system which could, in the future, dispatch early warnings that shaking is seconds or minutes away to people farther away from the epicenter.

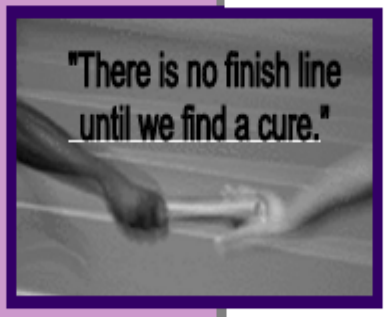
Anyone with a cell phone around the world can join in on this massive project. "This is a citizen science project," said Richard Allen, Director of the Berkeley Seismological Laboratory at UC Berkeley. Users who download the app will be sending data to scientists when an earthquake as small as a magnitude 5 hits. "This is an app that provides information, education, and motivation to the users to get ready for earthquakes. Those same people are contributing to our further understanding of earthquakes because they're collecting data that will help us better understand the earthquake process."

The app's algorithm is designed to ignore ordinary shaking, like a phone jiggling in a purse, and detect unique vibrations felt during earthquakes. If the phone detects what it thinks is an earthquake — usually something at a magnitude 5 or greater — it sends a message to a central server. If there are at least 300 phones sending warnings in the same 60-mile-by-60-mile zone, simulation tests show that's good enough to tell the system that the shaking was an earthquake, Allen said. The warnings will eventually give trains time to slow down, decreasing a risk of derailment before shaking arrives, sound an alert in hospitals to warn surgeons to halt surgery, and have elevators open their doors at the nearest floor, preventing people from becoming trapped.

Relay For Life

What is Relay For Life?

Your American Cancer Society, Relay For Life is a 12 Hour event involving teams of walkers who are committed to raising awareness and money in the fight against cancer. The event is held on a track where teams of 10 - 25 people of all ages participate. At 10:30 a.m., all cancer survivors are honored by walking a Survivor Lap around the track. While the Relay goes on, a party atmosphere is created as team members pitch tents, camp out, enjoy food, games, entertainment, and camaraderie. At 8:30 p.m., participants take part in a luminaria ceremony honoring survivors and remembering those lost to cancer. At the end of the Relay, our "Fight Back" ceremony is held in celebration of the end of our event, but not the end of our year around fight against cancer.



American Cancer Society's

Relay For Life of Huntington Beach

April 30, 2016 10AM—10 PM

Central Park
6741 Central Park Drive
(off Edwards between Slater and Ellis Streets)
Huntington Beach, CA

Register Teams Online Today
http://relayforlife.org/HuntingtonBeachCa

Please No Dogs or Alcohol

ACS Rep Danielle Ruiz (951) 768-2851
Event Lead Kassidy Hansen (714-)404-8335
ACS 1-800-227-2345 www.cancer.org
www.relayforlifeHB.com

8:30 PM Personalized luminarias honor cancer survivors & those who have lost the battle against cancer.

10:00 a.m. Kickoff: Relay participants walk and run to raise funds and awareness for a cure for cancer.

Children enjoy camping out at Relay For Life

10:30 a.m. Cancer survivors and patients celebrate life as they prepare and walk the "Survivors' Lap" at Relay.

FORM A TEAM . . .
BECOME A SPONSOR . . .
VOLUNTEER FOR THE EVENT!
Team lead Steph Deagle (714) 393-2439
Join your community in the fight against cancer.
1-800-227-2345 www.Cancer.org
www.relayforlifeHB.com

SANDBAGS

FREE

To Huntington Beach & Sunset Beach Residents

Identification Required – Please Bring ID/Driver License & Current Utility Bill.

City of Huntington Beach Corporate Yard
17371 Gothard Street (See Map On Reverse)
West Side of Gothard Street, Between Warner & Slater Avenues
7:30 AM - 4:00 PM Monday-Friday
(714) 960-8861

The Corporate Yard is closed weekends and major holidays.
Hours may be extended during extreme weather conditions.

- Bags are for residents only – no businesses, please.
- There is a limit of 20 bags per residence.
- The City provides the sand and sandbags. Bring a shovel and be prepared to fill your own sandbags.
- City staff cannot fill bags or place bags in private vehicles.
- Resident is responsible for lawfully disposing of sand and sandbags after use.
- Elderly and disabled residents may call the HB Fire Department CERT Message Line at (714) 536-5974 to arrange for free sandbag delivery. Resident must sign a waiver of liability when sandbags are delivered.
- For information on flood preparedness, call the HB Fire Department Emergency Management & Homeland Security Office at (714) 374-1565.


Saybrook Ln
Bolsa Chica St
Hell Ave
Algonquin St
Graham St
Warner Ave
Pacific Coast Hwy (Sunset)
Gothard St
Slater Ave
Springdale St
Edwards St
Goldenwest St
Talbert Ave
N
W
E
S
Pacific Coast Hwy
Ellis Ave
Don Kiser Municipal Yard
(City Corporate Yard)
17371 Gothard St.
Garfield Ave
Yorktown Ave
Main St
Gothard St.
Palm Ave
Lake St
Orange Ave
6th St
1st St

HUNTINGTON BEACH SURF CITY MARATHON FEBRUARY 7, 2016

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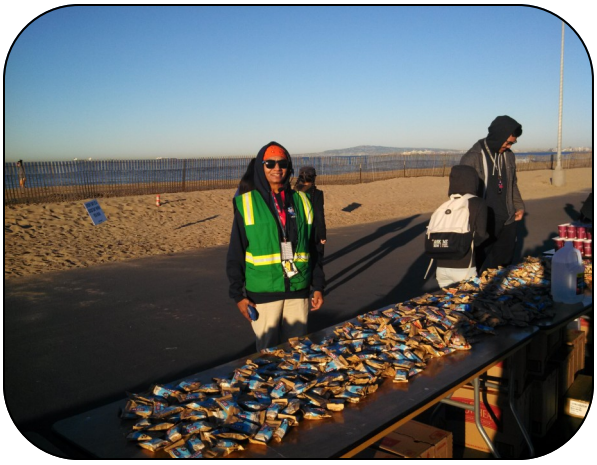
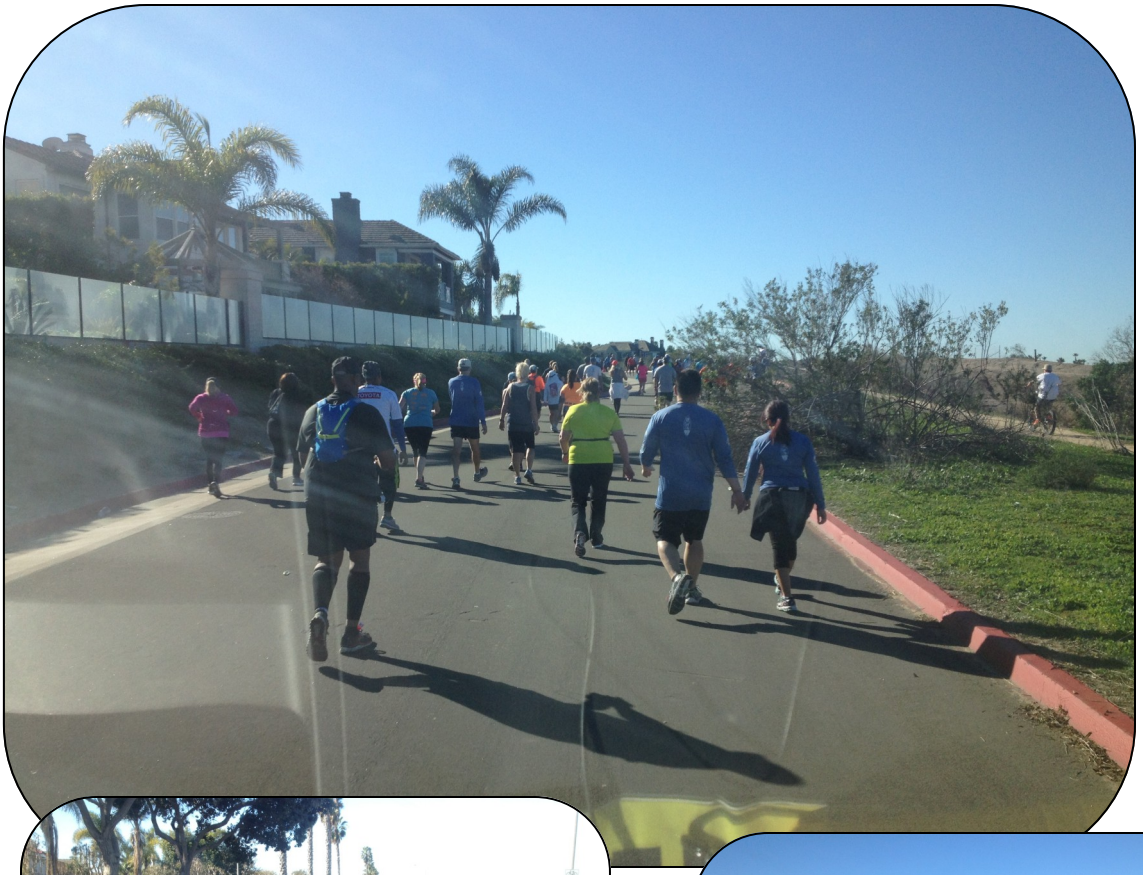
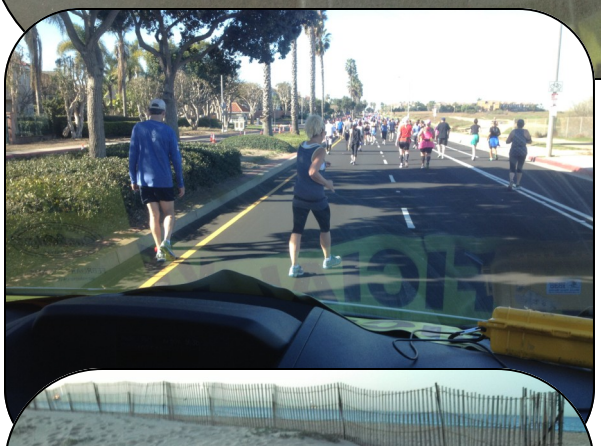


HUNTINGTON BEACH SURF CITY MARATHON FEBRUARY 7, 2016





Are you ready to become an official weather spotter?

Open to residents of Orange, San Diego, southwestern San Bernardino and western Riverside Counties. Complete the required training in-person or online.

Skywarn Weather Spotter training online:

If you can not attend a spotter training class in person this is the best method to sign up!

http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sgx/spotter/spotter-intro.php?wfo=sgx

At your pace review the 1 hour training presentation, take the test and sign up by completing the information to be used by NWS officials only.

Skywarn Weather Spotter Training residence:

1) Attend a spotter training introduction presentation in various locations in our region. This training will cover the details about being a weather spotter and the local hazards in Southern California. The residence training is encouraged for all new spotters and for current weather spotters as a refresher.

2) After the course you will still have take the short exam and sign up with your information at the above link. We will then assign you an official weather spotter identification number.

Advanced Skywarn Weather Training

Attend advanced residence training at various locations and dates TBD. Also, you may join amateur radio weather nets, or the national spotter network http://www.spotternetwork.org/

Contact Information

How to become a Skywarn Spotter:

http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sgx/spotter/skywarn-intro.php?wfo=sgx

National Weather Service Skywarn contact information for all of California:

http://www.stormready.noaa.gov/stormmaps/ca-cwa.htm

Southwest Skywarn website and Facebook: (Covers a four county areas):
http://www.swskywarn.org/

https://www.facebook.com/swskywarn

Riverside County and San Bernardino County Skywarn Facebook website:

https://www.facebook.com/SanBernardinoCountySkywarn

https://www.facebook.com/RivCoSkywarn

San Diego County Skywarn Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/SanDiegoCountySkywarn

Orange County Skywarn website and Facebook:

http://www.ocskywarn.org/

https://www.facebook.com/OCSkywarn

Southwest Skywarn Yahoo Group:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SW_SKYWARN/

For additional information, you are encouraged to contact the coordinator for your area from the contact information listing at:

http://www.swskywarn.org/Contacts.htm

More training:

https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_course.php?id=23

Become a Skywarn weather spotter for the National Weather Service

SKYWARN

http://swskywarn.org

Weather Spotters: What and When to Report

Two ways to report: By PHONE or ONLINE (version 2015)

1. Spotter phone number: **1-800-240-3022.** We are here 24/7/365

2. Online from our homepage **(weather.gov/sandiego - click on "Spotter Report")** or from SKYWARN page http://swskywarn.org/

http://www.srh.noaa.gov/StormReport/SubmitReport.php?site=sgx **(use this form)**

Flooding • Rainfall: How much rain in a given time (e.g., 1 inch in 20 minutes). *Rainfall rates (e.g, 4 inches per hour) should not be reported* • *Flooding: urban streets, ponding of water in low lying areas or poor drainage* • ***Flash Flooding (swift moving and greater than 6 inches).*** Report flooding that is threatening life or property or disrupting traffic.
Winter Weather • **Snowfall amount (new,duration, total). Snow depth and total to the nearest INCH** • Elevation of snow level, heavy snow and blizzard conditions • Icy roads, road closures, chain control, unusually low temperatures and wind chills
Wind • Gust of > 40 mph, and all wind related damage (e.g., trees or power poles down)
Extreme Heat • >95 F near the coast, >105 F in the inland valleys, >115 F in the deserts
Fog • Dense fog with visibility is at or near zero (report in feet or miles or impacts)
Thunderstorms • Hail size (for larger hail compare to coins or measure) and accumulation, wind gusts, lightning strikes causing fire, any damage
Tornadoes • Funnel clouds, waterspouts or any rotating cloud, in contact with ground (tornado) and confirmed injuries or damage
Surf and Coastal Impacts • Surf 6 feet or higher, any flooding by combination of high tides and/or high surf • Strong rip currents • Tidal overflow and flooding or tsunami impacts such as strong currents

Visit Southwest California Skywarn on Facebook! **http://www.facebook.com/swskywarn**

PHOTOS: Send to alexander.tardy@noaa.gov or nwssgxphotos@gmail.com
Facebook: http:// www.facebook.com/NWSSanDiego
Twitter: @NWSSanDiego #cawx #wxreport #socal
YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/NWSSanDiego

Field Guide to Observing Weather

Estimating Winds

15-20 mph: Raises dust and loose paper; small branches moved
20-25 mph: Small trees begin to sway; whitecaps on water
25-30 mph: Large branches in motion; whistling in wires
30-40 mph: Whole trees in motion; difficulty walking against the wind
40-45 mph: Breaks twigs of trees; impedes progress
45-55 mph: Breaks small tree branches; slight structural damage possible
55-65 mph: Breaks large tree branches; pushes over shallow rooted trees; considerable structural damage to chimneys, TV antennas (Severe Thunderstorm winds are defined as 58 mph or higher)
65-75 mph: Widespread damage
> 75 mph: Severe damage and destruction

Hail Size (measure hail size or compare to coins)

1/4 inch = Pea size
1/2 inch = Marble size (do not report as marble size)
3/4 inch = Penny size
1 inch = Quarter size (Severe Thunderstorms are issued for 1 inch hail or higher)
1 3/4 inch = Golf ball size
2 3/4 inch = Baseball size

Definitions

Tornado or Landspout
A violently rotating column of air extending from a thunderstorm and in contact with the ground
Funnel Cloud or Wall Cloud
A rotating, funnel-shaped or low cloud base, extending from a thunderstorm base ***not*** in contact with the ground
Waterspout
A small, relatively weak rotating column of air in contact with the ocean or other large body of water
Downburst or Microburst
A strong downdraft from a thunderstorm, with an outrush of strong wind on or near the ground

SAFETY FIRST! Do not endanger yourself or others

Thank you for being a weather spotter! Your reports may be used in NWS Advisories or Warnings! The information you provide will be used for storm verification and improve future forecasts and warnings.

Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program is to provide information and training on disaster preparedness; provide leadership and coordination during an emergency, and assistance to help victims recover from an emergency.

Upcoming CERT Events & Activities

- CERT General Membership Meeting, 6:30 PM March 10, 2016 in B8

CPR Classes

Fire Med customers can take CPR classes for free and non-FireMed customers can take classes for a fee. Dates are listed below:

- Saturday, March 12, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Wednesday, March 23, 6:00pm—9:00pm
- Saturday, April 9, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Wednesday, April 20, 6:00pm—9:00pm

To enroll in CPR classes, call 800-400-4277 or 714-556-4277. Class location is in the HB area and exact location given at time of enrollment.

HB CERT Newsletter Staff

Virginia Petrelis (Editor), Peter Petrelis (Publisher), Anna Pinter, Cynthia Goebel, Art Weiland, Carol Nehls, Bob Zamalin, Rajarajeswari (Raji) Shunmugavel, Brenda Welch, Barbara Scott

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

CERT Website: www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert **CERT Contact:** CERT@surfcity-hb.org
CERT Message line 714-536-5974 (THIS IS A MESSAGE LINE ONLY!)